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struction appears to be that under the bankruptcy laws any United States District Court has jurisdiction of the question of bankruptcy in the case of a voluntary petition.¹² This would mean that *any* federal court can make adjudication binding against all creditors, though there is no personal jurisdiction over the creditors, and further, as a consequence of this, the court's ultimate declaration of bankruptcy cannot be questioned. The correctness of a construction reaching such a result is at least arguable.

RECENT CASES

ADOPTION — RIGHTS OF CHILD UNDER UNEXECUTED CONTRACT OF ADOPTION. — One Cameron contracted to adopt the plaintiff, who therefore lived in his family as a daughter until his death. There was no actual adoption. The plaintiff now claims an interest in the estate of Cameron's son, who died intestate survived only by a brother. *Held*, that the plaintiff may not recover. *Malaney v. Cameron*, 161 Pac. 1180 (Kan.).

To take by inheritance, a foster child must be adopted in the manner provided by statute. See *Chehak v. Battles*, 133 Ia. 107, 114-115, 110 N. W. 330, 333. But when the foster parent has died without performing a contract to adopt, equity will generally grant relief, although the adoption itself cannot actually be carried out at law after the adoptive parent's death. *Starnes v. Hatcher*, 121 Tenn. 330, 117 S. W. 219. If the contract contains an express provision to leave property, this will be specifically enforced. *Pemberton v. Pemberton's Heirs*, 76 Neb. 669, 107 N. W. 996. But *cf. Jaffee v. Jacobson*, 48 Fed. 21. In the absence of an express provision, the contract may also be specifically enforced as an agreement to give such property as a natural child would have received. *Lynn v. Hockaday*, 162 Mo. 111, 61 S. W. 885; *contra, Renz v. Drury*, 57 Kan. 84, 45 Pac. 71. This is sound, since the chief remaining incident of a legal adoption is the right of inheritance. There is, however, no obligation on the parent not to dispose of his property to others. *Austin v. Davis*, 128 Ind. 472, 26 N. E. 890. That the child be made an heir is thus the substance of the contract to adopt. It may therefore be said that as a consequence of the right of specific performance the child is regarded in equity as adopted. See *Lynn v. Hockaday*, *supra*. But this equitable relation, arising solely from the contract, can give the child rights only against the parent or his property. There is thus no way to reach the property of relatives. Even when an adoption is legally completed, inheritance from collateral relatives must be specifically provided for by statute. *Wallace v. Noland*, 246 Ill. 535, 92 N. E. 956.

ATTORNEYS — DUTY TO THE COURT — DUTY TO DISCLOSE TRUTH IN A CRIMINAL CASE. — An experienced attorney defending a criminal, permitted a witness to testify falsely upon a collateral matter affecting the witness's credibility, and though he knew it to be false, he adopted the testimony as true in his summing up. There was no evidence that the attorney instigated the false testimony. *Held*, that he be disbarred. *In re Palmieri*, 162 N. Y. Supp. 799 (App. Div.).

By rule five of the Canons of Ethics of the American Bar Association, a lawyer who has undertaken to defend a criminal "is bound by all fair and honorable

¹² The facts of the case go no further than a voluntary petition, but on principle there would seem to be no distinction between a voluntary and an involuntary proceeding as to this question, provided that the court had jurisdiction of the bankrupt in the latter case.